

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/C/SEC/AF

Department of Defense

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Action

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INTELLIGENCE ACQUISITION

FOR ROPSHAW FROM NORDSTROM.

During last visit Wash JIOA discussed project of providing Ger scientists expenses paid trip to US to become acquainted personally with US academic and industrial research scientists in order provide mutual basis for consideration employment offers. SRD not (rpt not) since officially informed status plan although heard indirectly canvass made by EUCOM and other mil agencies in the interest Ger scientists accepting employment US.

Several Ger scientists recently informed SRD that contracts have been offered through Ehrman operating as contracting officer on Army orders. This operation is known as project 63 and was put in effect without coordination SRD or other HICOG agencies. Believe program calls for contracting approx 130 German scientists US Zone and 50 resident Brit Zone. Contract includes free transportation scientists family, household goods, plus salary for six-month period.

Offering contracts to many scientists in relatively short period resulting in possible departure large group key scientists may have serious impact on Ger-Amer relations with strong anti-American reaction West Ger press; will furnish excellent material Communist propaganda; and may seriously impair effectiveness consultants program and other supporting functions. Further SRD being asked advise re accepting or refusing contracts which puts SRD in embarrassing position since details project not (rpt not) known.

Believe program providing Ger scientists opportunity finding employment in US on voluntary basis is essentially sound. Implementation along lines indicated above seems to defeat this purpose. Request you discuss with JIOA with view reaching agreement on fol:

(A) Submission to SRD of complete info re project including implementation thereof in US.

(B) Staggering

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(B) Staggering the program so as to avoid simultaneous departure large number scientists.

(C) Contracting scientists to be effected in coordination SRD under conditions to be agreed Dept and JIOA.

May be advisable to establish committee in Germany of interested agencies to provide direction and guidance implementation project Germany. SRD willing participate this committee possibly in capacity chairman providing the Dept satisfied implementation can be effected without serious repercussions. Believe program will have fair chance at success under conditions stated above.

HAYS

GWP:DMP

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